



SARA Newsletter

August 2007

Shreveport Amateur Radio Association

Meeting:

First Thursday of each month at 6:30 P.M. in the Bossier Main Library History Center

Local Amateur Information

Available at:

www.K5SAR.com

or

www.qsl.net/nw1arn/

SARA Repeaters:

145.050 - K5SAR

DX Packet Cluster

145.110 - N5FJ

146.700 - K5KDO

146.820 - K5SL

440.900 - N5FJ

SARA

PO Box 37632

Shreveport, LA

71133-7632

2007 Club Officers

President – [Steve Smith, KG5VK](#)

Vice President – [Rick Westerfield, KH2DF](#)

Treasurer – [John Stewart, AA5KV](#)

Secretary – [Glenn Pettiet, N5SH](#)

[N5SH](#)

World Scout Jamboree On the Air from England

Worldwide Scouting celebrates 100 years of Scouting with the 21st World Jamboree in England July 27-August 7. Amateur Radio will be a significant part of the festivities, with participation in several events during the Jamboree.

GB100J will operate around the clock for the duration of the Jamboree.

There are plans for a contact with the International Space Station, including an EchoLink relay of the contact. The Scouting Sunrise Net marks the 100th anniversary with ceremonies around the world at 8 AM local time. This net will start at 1900 UTC July 31 and continue to 1900 UTC August 1, and will include GB100S and GB100BI. The BI station will be located on Brownsea Island, where Lord Baden Powell opened the very first Scout encampment at 8 AM August 1, 1907. The idea for Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) was formed at a World Jamboree in 1957. GB100J will celebrate JOTA's 50th birthday on August 4 with special on-the-air activities. This year's JOTA, always the third full weekend in October, will be a 50 hour around-the-world Scout happening. QST Assistant Technical Editor and active Scoutmaster Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, said, "Make plans now to spend some time with a local Scout Troop, Cub Pack or Venture Crew during the time of the Jamboree. Contact a local Scout camp and set up a station to have local Scouts participate in some of the World Jamboree festivities via Amateur Radio. Talk with Scouts at the Jamboree and other locations around the world. You and the Scouts will have so much fun you will want to do this again and again. For more information and updates during the Jamboree, see the GB100J Web page <<http://gb100j.radio-scouting.org.uk/>>.

Tid Bits of Useful Data

Jim K8MR posted a link (<http://tinyurl.com/yugurz>) to a New York Times on-line review of eight different models of noise-canceling headphones. You'll have to register on the NYT site, but it's free.

The review includes the gold-standard Bose model and several other models costing as little as \$40.

Kit builders will enjoy taking a look at the QRP offerings at <http://kitsandparts.com/rftoolkits.asp> where numerous modules are available. There is also a Google group for the kits at <http://groups.google.com/group/RF-toolkits> for user support and ideas. (Thanks, Doug N6TQS and Bob KC5WA)

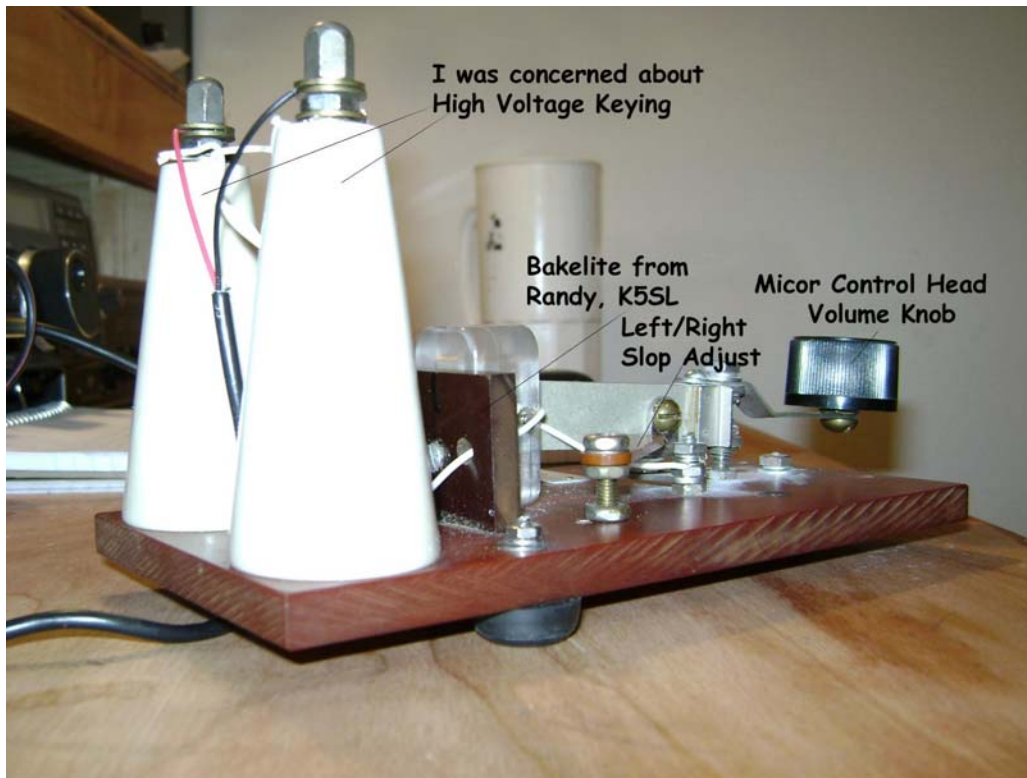
LB Cebik W4RNL has made available 9 collections containing 252

Type-13 antenna modeling files for propagation prediction on the antennex Guest Rooms (www.antennex.com) Info about the files can be found on the software download index page.

Stub filters are common in HF stations to prevent inter-station interference. What about VHF/UHF interference to consumer FM and TV receivers? Stub filters can be put to work there just as well, as pointed out by this useful Web article (<http://tinyurl.com/2d6hxx>) by G4SWX. (Thanks, John W0UN)

Homebrew Delight

What have you built lately?



This is a key that was built in only a few hours by Marcel Livesay, N5VU. Heavy duty and ready to go. Building is not hard, just takes a little imagination.

Technical Tips

The use of a gin pole is a "given" to hoist heavy antennas and tower sections into place above the lower tower sections. But how do you move the gin pole, itself? Rusty K0FE asked just such a question on the TowerTalk reflector and was answered by Dave K1TTT as follows:

1. Loosen the tower leg clamps on the gin pole (not on the tower) and slide it down through the clamp so the top pulley of the gin pole is just above the clamp of the gin pole (it's still firmly clamped to the tower leg).
2. Tie the top of the gin pole to your belt (if it's light enough - Ed) or have some other clamping arrangement to hold it while you move it up the tower, then disconnect the clamps on the tower leg. The gin pole is now free and hanging from your belt or the tower.
3. Hoist the gin pole up to the top of the section you just installed and clamp it on. It should be easy to clamp on because most of the weight is below the tower leg clamp (keeping it vertical).
4. Push the gin pole's pipe up through the tower leg clamp so it is sufficiently above the top of the tower and tighten the clamps.
5. Disconnect the gin pole from the supporting rope or strap.

The key is lowering the gin pole through the tower leg clamp so that it hangs in the proper and stable position while being lifted and repositioned.

Operating Tip

In a big pileup, pause before starting your call. With the majority of call signs being four or five characters, a two or three-character pause leaves some of your call in the clear when everybody else's has ended. Since you are messing with the pileup rhythm, be sure to listen first. Once you've given your call, listen to see how the counter-rhythm is working - don't just keep transmitting.